

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA  
WESTERN DIVISION

Civil Action No. 1:22-cv-00089-DLH-CRH

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and  
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA,

Plaintiffs,

v.

BELLE FOURCHE PIPELINE COMPANY,

Defendant.

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**JOINT STATUS REPORT**

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Plaintiffs United States of America and the State of North Dakota and Defendant Belle Fourche Pipeline Company (“Belle Fourche”) (collectively, the “Parties”) jointly submit this status report to advise the Court on the Parties’ efforts to resolve the Reserved Remediation Claims,<sup>1</sup> pursuant to the Court’s Order Vacating Scheduling Order (ECF No. 29).

The Parties most recently submitted a status report on April 1, 2025, detailing efforts to resolve the Reserved Remediation Claims (ECF No. 42).

Since April 1, 2025, the Parties have continued taking steps toward a consensual resolution of the Reserved Remediation Claims, including:

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<sup>1</sup> The Reserved Remediation Claims are identified in the Partial Consent Decree (ECF No. 35) at Paragraphs 63(a) and 64(a-b).

1. Belle Fourche's consultants prepared a draft workplan to effectuate the Remedy Proposal and submitted it to the United States and North Dakota on March 7, 2025. The United States and North Dakota continue to review the proposed workplan.
2. The United States and North Dakota provided a revised draft term sheet to Belle Fourche on April 25, 2025 and Belle Fourche intends to provide a response to the United States and North Dakota the week of May 19, 2025.
3. In the meantime, Belle Fourche has continued to conduct its scheduled monitoring and product recovery events consistent with previous years.
4. The Parties hope to finalize the agreement and memorialize mutually acceptable terms in a final Consent Decree resolving the Reserved Remediation Claims for the Court's review and approval.
5. Accordingly, the Parties will provide an additional status report no later than August 18, 2025, and at least once every three months thereafter, advising the Court of the status of their efforts to finalize a settlement of the Reserved Remediation Claims.

Dated: May 15, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

**FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

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